

# Valley of the Sun Best Workplaces for Commuters<sup>SM</sup> Coalition



# Valley Metro/RPTA (The Regional Public Transportation Authority) www.ValleyMetro.org

Formed in 1986, Valley Metro/RPTA is a political subdivision of the State of Arizona and is the regional transportation planning agency for Maricopa County. With eighteen member communities, VM/RPTA is responsible for regional transit planning, transit public information, the management and operation of regional bus and dial-a-ride services, the regional ridesharing program, a regional vanpool program and elements of the county-wide Trip Reduction program and the Clean Air Campaign.

# **Arizona Department of Environmental Quality**

http://www.adeq.state.az.us/

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality's mission is to protect and enhance public health and the environment in Arizona. Established by the Arizona Legislature in 1986 in response to growing concerns about groundwater quality, ADEQ today administers a variety of programs to improve the health and welfare of our citizens and ensure the quality of Arizona's air, land and water resources meets healthful, regulatory standards. ADEQ is committed to leading Arizona and the nation in protecting the environment and improving the quality of life for the people of our state.

#### **Maricopa Association of Governments**

http://www.mag.maricopa.gov

The Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) is a Council of Governments that serves as the regional agency for the metropolitan Phoenix area.

MAG is also the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for regional planning in the Maricopa region. MAG provides regional planning and policy decisions in areas of transportation, air quality, water quality, regional development, and human services. MAG was founded in the spirit of cooperation, and members believe that the many diverse cities, towns and Indian Communities in the MAG region can do more than coexist. By uniting, they can solve common problems, take an active role in long range regional issues and forcefully address concerns that affect all of the communities.

# Maricopa County Department of Environmental Services

http://www.maricopa.gov/envsvc

The Environmental Services Department is responsible for the health and safety of residents and visitors in Maricopa County. The Department's Environmental Health Specialists make sure that eating and drinking establishments are safe, that measures are taken to improve air quality, and that water supplies throughout the County are safe to drink. As a regional leader, Maricopa County has made major strides to improve air

quality by implementing various programs. Maricopa County works hand-in-hand with the State, cities, towns and industry in the Valley to reduce air pollution.

### **Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce**

http://www.phoenixchamber.com/index.cfm

Representing more than 4,600 member companies and 400,000 member employees, the Greater Phoenix Chamber's mission is to support the growth and development of business and the quality of life of the community, champion the voice of business in government and keep businesses informed, connected and prosperous. The Board of Directors is made up of nearly 50 representatives from small and large businesses, including manufacturing, banking, services, media and other disciplines. Departments to serve member and community needs include Public Affairs, Economic Development, Small Business and Marketing & Communications.

# **Valley Forward Association**

http://www.valleyforward.com/

Valley Forward Association is a unique public interest organization that has influenced quality of life and environmental decisions in the Valley of the Sun since 1969. A non-profit organization, Valley Forward brings business, community and civic leaders together to convene thoughtful public dialogue on regional issues and to promote cooperative efforts to improve the environment and quality of life in the Valley. Valley Forward advocates a balance between economic development and environmental quality. The Association consists of a blend of members, including large and small businesses and various jurisdictions of government.

# **East Valley Chambers of Commerce Alliance**

The East Valley Chambers of Commerce Alliance is a coalition of eight Chamber organizations in the southeast area of the Valley of the Sun. The EVCCA provides coordination and advances the common business interests of the East Valley; serves as a public policy advocacy body on issues that impact the business and economic climate of the East Valley; and provides a forum and structure for cooperative programs and services that benefit the collective members of the Alliance. The member organizations include Ahwatukee Chamber of Commerce, Apache Junction Chamber of Commerce, Chandler Chamber of Commerce, East Valley Partnership, Gilbert Chamber of Commerce, Mesa Chamber of Commerce, Tempe Chamber of Commerce, and Queen Creek Chamber of Commerce.

## **United States Environmental Protection Agency**

Through Best Workplaces for Commuters, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recognizes employers nationwide that offer outstanding commuter benefits. Participating organizations achieve a *National Standard of Excellence*, as defined by program criteria, that includes offering employees commuter benefits such as transit passes, vanpool subsidies, carpool matching, bike lockers, or compressed work schedules.